

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/762,476	SHIRAISHI, NAOTO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Antonio A. Caschera	2676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed, 06/17/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 7-14, 16-23 and 25-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>7/23/2004</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in the pending application.

Response to Arguments

2. The amendments to the specification have been considered and are accepted.
3. Note, the cancellation of claims 6, 15 and 24 is noted along with the combining of claim limitations from these cancelled claims into independent claims 1, 10 and 19 respectively.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-5, 7-14, 16-23 and 25-27 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In reference to claims 1, 10 and 19, the prior art of record (Iida et al. (U.S. Patent 6,473,091 B1), Levison (U.S. Patent 6,008,815) and Weed (U.S. Patent 6,809,740 B1)) does not explicitly disclose controlling a change of color by interpolating color in horizontal and vertical directions, in accordance with a mesh shaped like a square, surround the object and divided into minimal color lengths in vertical and horizontal directions, in combination with the further limitations of claims 1, 10 and 19 respectively.

In reference to claims 2-5 and 7-9, claims 2-5 and 7-9 depend upon allowable independent claim 1 therefore claims 2-5 and 7-9 are also deemed allowable.

Art Unit: 2676

In reference to claims 11-14 and 16-18, claims 11-14 and 16-18 depend upon allowable independent claim 10 therefore claims 11-14 and 16-18 are also deemed allowable.

In reference to claims 20-23 and 25-27, claims 20-23 and 25-27 depend upon allowable independent claim 19 therefore claims 20-23 and 25-27 are also deemed allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

References Cited

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. Lin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,862,111 B2)
 - Lin et al. discloses a color image dithering method and apparatus for producing an output point in a color space using a tetrahedron of a 3D cubic subinterval of a point in a source color space by way of interpolation.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Antonio Caschera whose telephone number is (571) 272-7781. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays between 7:30 AM and 5:00 PM.

Art Unit: 2676

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella, can be reached at (571) 272-7778.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

aac

8/19/05



MATTHEW C. BELLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600